

# The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society's **EXCITER**



## RARS EVENTS:

- The RARS General Membership meeting is the 1st Tuesday of the month.
- The RARS net meets every night @ 8 PM on 146.640.
- The RARS Technical & Trader's net is Saturdays @ 8:30 PM or following the RARS net.
- RARS meets for a monthly dinner on the 2nd Tuesday of each month.

## Time to Renew!

Please help us continue to provide quality programs, activities, and events for our club members. One of the ways we do this is through the RARS annual dues. The membership year is July 1-June 30, so it's time to renew!

There are a number of ways to pay your dues.

- Pay at a RARS meeting.
- Mail your dues to the RARS Treasurer:  
Greg Seamster  
1405 Leanne Court  
Raleigh, NC 27606
- Pay online at <http://www.rars.org/joinrars.htm>.  
Online payments are made via PayPal to [Raleigh\\_ARIS@earthlink.net](mailto:Raleigh_ARIS@earthlink.net).

If there are no data changes to your membership (address, call, license class, etc.), you do not need to fill out a renewal form. The membership form can be downloaded in a PDF format from the website. View your membership status and update data at <http://www.rars.org/only.php>.

Please provide updates for your interest in public service, SKYWARN, and ARES. You are also welcome to renew for multiple years. Thanks! We couldn't do it without you.

### Dues

Regular: \$18

Reduced (Under 12 or Over 60): \$12

Associate (Not Licensed): \$9

Each Additional Family Member: \$5

### Next RARS Meeting: July 5

7:30 PM: "Radiograms" presented by  
Dick Orander KD4ISC.

## **RARS OFFICERS:**

### **PRESIDENT**

Karl Bowman

W4CHX

919.669.6068

[w4chx@arri.net](mailto:w4chx@arri.net)

### **VICE PRESIDENT**

Candy Orr

KJ4OBQ

919-217-7734

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### **SECRETARY**

Charles Swindell

WB4DCM

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### **TREASURER**

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KE4PAX

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## **The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society**

The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society, Inc. (RARS) was founded in 1969 and continues to serve and support the amateur radio community in the greater Triangle area. In 1999, the society incorporated a new RARS and obtained 501(c)(3) non-profit tax status.

The objectives of the club are to promote worldwide friendship through amateur radio; to be of public service by providing radio communications in times of disaster, emergency, or civic needs; to educate members in radio technique, and to provide training classes to assist in obtaining amateur radio licenses.

Anyone interested in amateur radio is eligible to apply for membership. Dues for regular licensed amateurs are \$18 per year (from July 1 through June 30). Additional immediate family members pay \$5 each per year. Dues for licensed amateurs older than 59 or younger than 16 are \$12 per year. Dues for non-licensed associate members are \$9 per year. Applications for membership may be obtained from the treasurer or on the RARS website ([www.rars.org](http://www.rars.org)).



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## **The Exciter**

The *Exciter* is the official newsletter of the Raleigh Amateur Radio Society. It appears each month as a PDF on the RARS website at [www.rars.org](http://www.rars.org). Members receive email notification when the latest version is available. Please provide your email address to the Treasurer.

The *Exciter* welcome articles, advertisements, and other contributions. To submit a piece to the newsletter, please contact the Editor.

The views expressed in the *Exciter* are those of the individual authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Editor or RARS.

The Editor reserves the right to edit any and all pieces.

The submission deadline for each month's *Exciter* is the third Friday of the preceding month. All submissions must be final. Drafts are not accepted.

Editor: Courtney Enzor KI4HOS ([editor@rars.org](mailto:editor@rars.org))

### **RARS General Meeting**

*Date:* First Tuesday of each month

*Location:* First Alliance Church

4400 Buffaloe Road

Raleigh, NC

*Time:* People begin arriving at 7 PM. The meeting officially begins at 7:30 PM.

### **RARS Monthly Dinner**

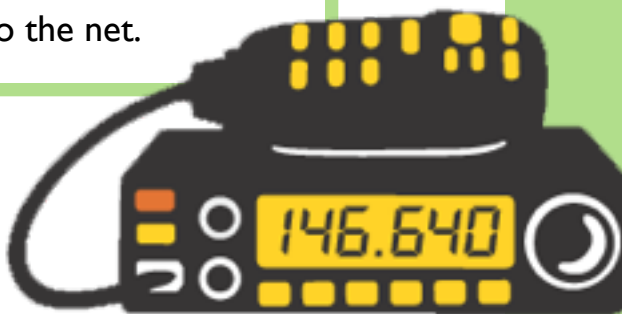
Join us on the 2nd Tuesday of each month for the RARS dinner. It's open to everyone: RARS members, non-members, friends, and family – feel free to bring your little ones! Dinner begins at 6:30 pm.

Listen to the nightly RARS net and check [www.rars.org](http://www.rars.org) for details on the next dinner's location.

### **RARS Repeaters in Raleigh**

146.640 & 443.625 (88.5 PL)

Join us for the nightly RARS net @ 8 PM on the 146.640. All hams holding a Technician class license or higher are invited to check in. We welcome both RARS and non-RARS member to the net.



## **VE TESTING**

The RARS VEs will accept walk-in testing at the February, May, August, and November RARS meetings; the RARSFest in April; the Cary Swapfest in July; the JARSFest in November; and following RARS license classes.

Please bring a photo ID, your current license, a copy of your current license, your \$15 exam fee, and any CSCEs you have for credit. Visit [www.rars.org](http://www.rars.org) for more information.

## July Birthdays

James	KE4DRN	7/3
Will	KM4SZ	7/4
Brooks	K4BRX	7/5
Bill	N9JLP	7/6
Bill	NIULP	7/8
Cathy	KA3QPU	7/9
John	AI4RT	7/10
Annette	KB4AQH	7/11
Wade	KG4KAH	7/14
Doug	AD4UL	7/14
Giff	KC4SAM	7/15
Jerry	WA1WHD	7/15
Alex Singleton		7/18
Bob	K4RLC	7/19
Rebecca Singleton		7/21
John	KI4VVC	7/22
Bruce	N4BGG	7/24
Lee	WB4DRJ	7/25
Ferdinand	AD4RC	7/25
Charles	WB4DCM	7/26
William	K4CIA	7/28
Meme	KE4NGM	7/28
Stuart	NF2N	7/28
Dave	W4YDY	7/29
Bob	KI4YXM	7/30
Scott	KJ4TUC	7/30
Todd	N2XL	7/31

## New RARS Members

Bonnie deCourt	No License
Paul Denisowski	KO4LZ
David Eckert	KB8V
Ron Zaback	WE4RON

## Upcoming Hamfests

7/9 Firecracker Hamfest  
Salisbury, NC  
<http://www.rowanars.org/>

7/16 Cary Mid-Summer Swapfest  
Cary, NC  
<http://www.qsl.net/n4nc/swapfest.html>

7/16 6th Annual MCARC Hamfest  
Athens, TN  
<http://www.mcminnarc.com/fest/fest.html>

7/30 35th Annual Western Carolina Hamfest  
Waynesville, NC  
<http://www.wcars.org/hamfest.html>

## May 2011

### RARS Net Reports

Checkins: 550  
Traffic: 30/26  
Minutes: 610  
Sessions: 31

### Special Interest Nets:

Checkins: 100  
Minutes: 300  
Sessions: 10

## RARSFest 2011 Prize Winners

- William Turner 10am
  - CJ Orr 11am
  - HC Thompson 12pm
  - Stewart Jones 1pm
  - Bob Young 2pm
  - Mac Lawhorn Grand Prize
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- Ken Ledford Fox Hunt



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## Needed: WIAW Morse Code Reception Reports Announcement by David Crawford KF4VXJ

WIAW, the ARRL HQ's main station, could use reception reports of their Morse Code practice, and all bulletin, transmissions. These transmissions are for the amateur radio community's benefit. They are transmitted simultaneously on all HF bands, and on two meters on 147.555 MHz.

Morse code (CW) practice transmissions are sent starting at 9 am, 4 pm, 7 pm, and 10 pm on 1.8025, 3.5815, 7.0475, 14.0475, 18.0975, 21.0675, and 28.0675 MHz.

ARRL Voice bulletins are transmitted in single sideband at 9:45 pm each weekday on 1.855, 3.990, 7.290, 14.290, 18.160, 21.390, 28.590 and 147.555 MHz.

ARRL bulletins are sent in Morse code starting at 5 pm, 8 pm, and 11 pm, using the same frequencies as the practice transmissions.

ARRL bulletins are sent in three digital modes starting at 6 and 9 pm, using RTTY (45.45-baud), PSK31, MFSK16 formats. The frequencies used are 3.5975, 7.095, 14.095, 18.1025, 21.095, 28.095 kHz and 147.555 MHz. The formats are sent in a rotating format, so see <http://www.arrl.org/digital-transmissions> for details.

A proper reception report should contain: Your name, location, transceiver info, antenna info (include orientation if directional), date, and time. For each frequency heard, give it a *truthful* RST report with any comments desired. RST are the initials for Readability (0-5), Strength (0-9), and Tone (0-9).

# Minutes of May 17, 2011 RARS Board Meeting

Present: Ken McEwen KI4OTO, Bob Starkenberg W4TTX, Greg Seamster KE4PAX, Karl Bowman W4CHX, Jack Foster N6UYB, Virginia Enzor NC4VA, Chuck Littlewood K4HF, and Charles Swindell WB4DCM.

Guests: David Crawford KF4VXJ

Apologies and/or emailed reports: John AI4RT, Mary KG4OQA, CJ KJ4OBQ

1. Call to order (Karl W4CHX): The meeting was called to order at 7:06 PM.
2. Approval of minutes (Karl W4CHX and Charles WB4DCM): The Minutes of the April 19, 2011 meeting of the RARS Board were approved.
3. Vice President's report (CJ KJ4OBQ): Based on her email communication, CJ KJ4OBQ reported that an issue of security of the RARSFest table has arisen. The issue is being referred to the RARSFest Committee.

CJ KJ4OBQ has confirmed the following speakers: June, Jeff Wittich, AC4ZO, "The Last Great Field Day"; July, Dick Orander, KD4ISC, "Radiograms"; August, Paul Stroud, AA4XX, "QRP"; and, September, tentatively John Snellen, AI4RT, "Public Service Events".

4. Treasurer's report (Greg KE4PAX): Treasurer Greg KE4PAX reported that RARS now has 296 members as compared to 258 at the end of the 2009/2010 year. Any RARS member needing additional information should contact Karl W4CHX or Greg KE4PAX directly. It is time for the annual financial review.
5. Secretary's report (Charles WB4DCM): No report.
6. Committee reports:
  - a. Public Service Director (John AI4RT): Based on his email communication, John AI4RT indicated that a small, public service walking event will occur on Saturday, May 21st. Hams are needed from 7:00 AM to noon; participation in this event should not interfere with Volunteer's Picnic. The event is the CAM Relay for Life, Cary High School athletic field. Also,

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there are many cycling events coming up in June and July; check the RARS website for details.

With regard to ARES: the next net will be Thursday, May 19th, 8:30 pm, using the RARS 146.64 repeater.

- b. Public Information Officer (Gary KN4AQ): No report.
- c. Education Director (Virginia NC4VA): Virginia NC4VA advises that the next amateur radio class will have to be planned after Field Day. She raised the issue of handouts briefly discussing amateur radio as well as handouts about RARS.
- d. Field Day Chair (Bob W4TTX): Bob W4TTX stated that links on the RARS web page has been installed connecting to the ARRL Field Day locator. Thus, folks will be able to find a map to the Carroll's property. The port-a-johns have been arranged. The supper for Saturday night will be catered. The Field Day Net has been re-instituted for Tuesday nights. This year we may be a 9A or 10A club. Invitations have been sent to several public officials to visit our sight but no commitments yet. Gary KN4AQ will handle press releases.
- e. FM Repeater Chair (Gary KN4AQ): Gary KN4AQ was not present so there was no definitive information on the 145.13 move.
- f. RARSFest Chair (John AI4RT): Based on his email communication, John AI4RT reported that the RARSfest Volunteer's Picnic, will be held on Saturday, May 21 from noon until dark; and the "hot wash" meeting to discuss RARSfest 2011 will be held on Monday, May 23, 7:00 PM, at the Triangle Radio Reading Room. Ken KI4OTO advised that he plans to serve food about 2:00 PM. The meal will consist of hamburgers, hot dogs, and chicken dogs. We have reserved the park for all day. Due to tornado damage, Ken does not have a home phone or email. We will try to have a repeater announcement for the picnic.

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- g. Exciter Chair (Courtney KI4HOS): No report.
- h. Hospitality Chair (Mary Jo K4MJL): No report.
- i. Net Manager (Mary KG4OQA): Based on her email communication, “the nets are fine!”
- j. ARRL Liaison (Chuck K4HF): No report.
- k. At-Large Director (Don WA4AVU): No report.
- l. At-Large Director (Ken KI4OTO): No report.
- m. At-Large Director (Jack N6UYB): No report.
- n. W4DW/W4RNC Trustee (Jeff AC4ZO): No report.
- o. RARSVE Coordinators (Joe WA4GIR and Liz KO4CK):
- p. RARS Webmaster (Hank K4HM): No report.

7. Old business:

- a. Follow-up on agenda items introduced by Bob KB4RGC (Ken KI4OTO): No additional information at this time.
- b. Board of Directors job descriptions (Hank K4HM): No report.
- c. Field Day 2011: donations and in-kind services project (David KF4VXJ): David KF4VXJ continues his efforts to obtain donations of items that may be used at Field Day and has had some success.
- d. Bereavement donations (Greg KE4PAX): Greg KE4PAX reported that he has communicated with a new member that is also a CPA. The CPA has advised that it is not an issue for a 501(C) (3) entity to make donations to other such entities. Further, there does not appear to be an issue in holding funds for educational purposes. Contributions made with restrictions are not tax deductible to the contributor. Contributions with suggested uses are

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deductible. Greg will present a recommendation for bereavement donations at the June Board.

- e. RARS participation in Maker Faire, Saturday, June 18, 2011 (Ken KI4OTO): RARS will advise Maker Faire that we will not participate this year but that we look forward to participating next year.

8. New business:

- a. RARS budget (2011-2012): A draft budget for the year 2011-2012 was presented. Therein followed extensive discussion about the budget and certain expenses. Finally, a draft budget by motion and second was agreed upon to present to the membership for approval. Ken KI4OTO, Bob W4TTX and Jack N6UYB will work with Greg KE4PAX to complete the financial review in July.

9. Any other business: There was no other business to come before the Board.

10. Board member's comments:

Greg KE4PAX asked who ran the J-pole project at RARSFest. He had received an inquiry about someone taking the parts home and not doing the project at RARSFest. RARSFest committee will have to review their procedures and make a decision.

Bob W4TTX advised that he does not receive RARS emails. He should be on the mailing list. Karl W4CHX will follow up on this issue.

11. Adjournment (Karl W4CHX): The meeting was adjourned at 9:12 PM.

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# Minutes of May 3, 2011 RARS Meeting

- 1) Call to order: The meeting was called to order at 7:33 PM by Karl W4CHX. There were 63 members and guests present.
- 2) Approval of minutes: The minutes of the RARS General Membership meeting on May 3, 2011 were approved as written.
- 3) Vice President's report (CJ KJ4OBQ): The Vice President made her report with the introductions for the program.
- 4) Treasurer's report (Greg KE4PAX): Treasurer Greg Ke4PAX reported that RARS now has 303 members. He briefly reviewed some income and expense items. If any RARS member has any questions please contact Greg KE4PAX or Karl W4CHX for further information.
- 5) Announcements (Karl W4CHX):
  - a) RARS Dinner: second Tuesday, (June 14, 2011), 6:30PM, Golden Corral, 6129 Glenwood Ave (Hwy 70), monitor the 146.64 repeater on Tuesday (June 14) for any update information.
  - b) RARS Board meeting: third Tuesday (June 21, 2011), 7:00PM, Triangle Radio Reading Service, 211 E. Six Forks Rd, Suite 103; any RARS member is welcome to attend. For more information, contact any RARS officer.
  - c) After meeting gathering: Depending on the time of the program completion: Applebee's, Six Forks Rd and Wake Forest Rd (by the Costco).
  - d) HR 607 and spectrum defense-related items: Karl W4CHX reminded members to stay current on these topics and that more letters may need to be written to support spectrum allocations to the amateur radio service.
  - e) Guests: Ron Zaback WE4RON (new member), Mani (new member but no call yet), Dave Eckert KB8V (new member), Alex Pasetes W3XXX (new member), Bill Wright KJ4MNZ, Daniel DeCourt W3WDD, Lee Kerlin KK1EMS, Ron Hollamon KJ4LKM, Ian Young KG4DPU, David Burt W4OFO (is a member but this is his first meeting), and Beth Burt.
- 6) Reports from RARS Board members and others:

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- a) 2011-2012 RARS Budget: Treasurer Greg KE4PAX reviewed the 2010-2011 budget and then presented the proposed 2011-2012 budget. There was a motion and second to accept the budget. After discussion, the budget was approved.
- b) QCWA meeting, June 11, 2011: Chuck K4HF advised everyone that the QCWA meeting would be on Saturday, June 11 in Denton, NC and all were welcome. The meeting would begin at 12:30 to allow those that wished to attend the Winston-Salem hamfest to do so.

7) Any other business:

- a) 10 meter net: Alan AB4OZ announced that the 10 M net would be on 28.364, plus or minus depending on interference, right after the tech net.
- b) T15 Youth Dxpedition: Steve KA8HXX and his son, Sam KI4TRG took the stage and made brief comments about the Youth DXpedition to Costa Rica this July. The participants have raised most of the funds needed for the trip, but additional donations are needed.

8) Drawing: Winners of the drawing were KJ4LKM, K4LXV, and K4SAN.

9) Program: VP CJ KJ4OBQ announced that the program for July would be “Radio Grams” by Dick KD4ISC. Next, Bob W4TTX took the stage and made brief comments about the upcoming Field Day. Jeff AC4ZO began the program by providing hints/guidelines for some simple operating procedures for Field Day. Then Gary KN4AQ, Jeff AC4ZO, CJ KJ4OBQ, and Dick KD4ISC did a brief skit about Field Day. That was followed by the Amateur Radio Video News (Gary KN4AQ) video, “The Last BIG Field Day”, a documentary of the 50A station put together by W3AO in 2004.

10) Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned by Karl W4CHX at 9:16 PM.

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# Local Amateur Radio Nets

Join us every evening at 8 PM on the 146.640 repeater for the **RARS Two-Meter Net**. You can give a ragchew, check in and out (this counts for our total numbers reported to the ARRL!), make announcements, and pass traffic. We also offer National Traffic System traffic training. All licensed stations are welcome to participate in the net as often as they can. This net is also a great way to learn about amateur radio if you are newly licensed!

## Central Carolina SKYWARN

Please join us each Tuesday @ 9:15 PM on the 146.880 repeater for the CCS net. On each net there are announcements, check-ins by county, and often a program or training spot. Check us out at [www.centralcarolinaskywarn.net](http://www.centralcarolinaskywarn.net).

The **PCTN (Piedmont Costal Traffic Net)** meets every night at 9 PM on the 146.880. The purpose of the net is to handle/pass NTS formal messages. Amateur stations are encouraged to check in and participate. The backup repeater is the 147.105 (PL tone 82.5).

The **Wake County ARES Net** meets Thursdays at 8:30 PM on the 146.640 repeater. We provide discussion training for the implementation and provision of emergency communications for our served agencies, such as the American Red Cross and the local and state Emergency Operations Center. Please join us. For more information, check out [www.wakeares.org](http://www.wakeares.org).

Please join us on the **Carolina 440 Net** every Monday night at 7:30 PM. This ragchew net utilizes the Carolina 440 UHF Link Repeater System. Comprised of the Raleigh, Down East, and Coastal Wilmington link systems, there are currently 19 repeaters on the system, covering 21,168 square miles. For a list of these repeaters, please visit [www.carolina440.net](http://www.carolina440.net).

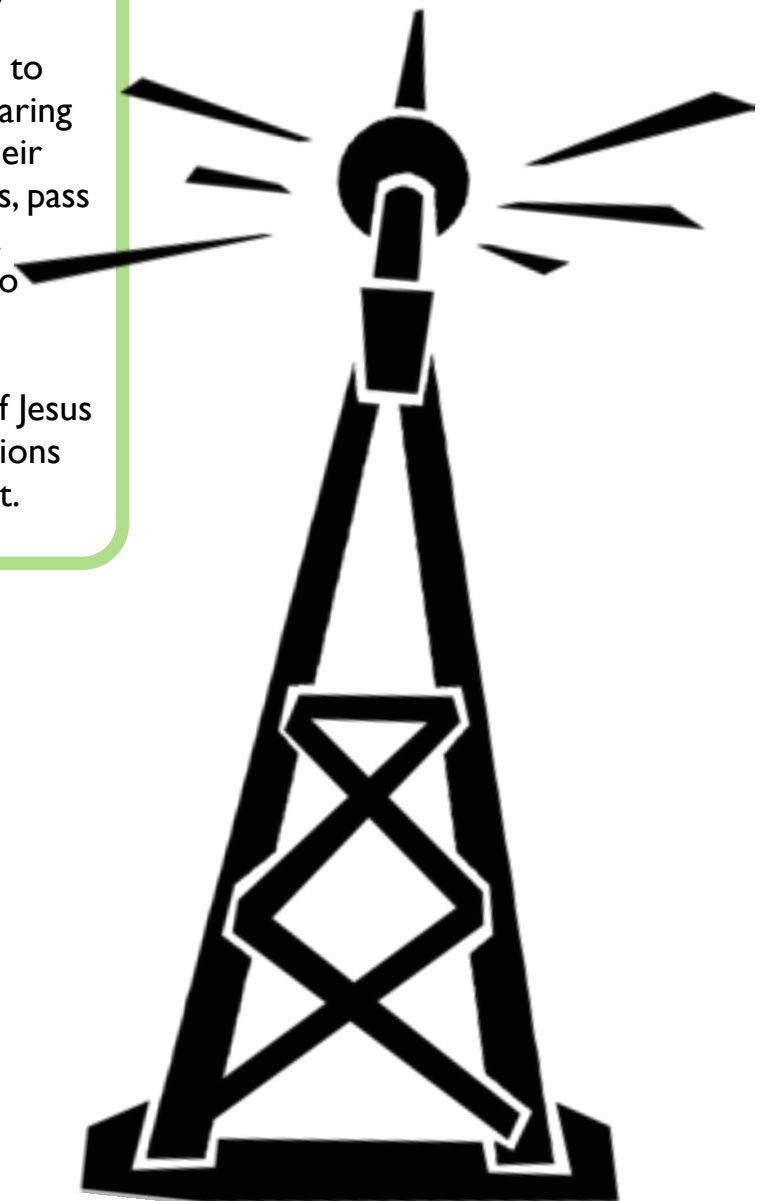
# Local Amateur Radio Nets

The **RARS Technical & Trader's Net** is held on Saturday evenings on the 146.640 at 8:30 PM.

## **Apex Emergency Response Communications Net**

This net meets weekly each Sunday evening @ 9 PM on the 146.640 repeater. The purpose of the net is to assist ham radio operators in preparing to respond to emergencies, test their equipment, improve operating skills, pass traffic, and to provide those with a common interest an opportunity to meet. The Apex ERC Net provides amateur radio emergency communications for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints. All stations are invited to participate in this net.

The **VOIP Hurricane Net** is held Sundays at 00:00 UTC on the 146.775 repeater with a tone of 88.5 (IRLP node 4260). For information about activation details, go to [www.voipwx.net](http://www.voipwx.net).



## RARS Classifieds

Looking to add a new radio to your shack? Have an antenna for sale? Browse the RARS classifieds for new and used radio equipment at <http://rars.org/classifieds.php>.

RARS members are welcome to post notices about equipment they are selling. Posts last for 30 days and are editable at any time.

Using our classifieds is a great way for buyers to search for available items and for sellers to reach a local, targeted audience.

*The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society's*

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